Attorney Docket No.: 30487/38612A

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING Application Serial No.: 10/765,553) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Applicants: Madda et al. Service, first class postage prepaid, addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Filed: January 27, 2004 Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-Title: "Spiral Stent Assembly" 1450, on this date: March 30, 2004 Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned Examiner: Not Yet Assigned Matthias Abrell Reg. No.: 47,377 Attorney Docket No.: 30487/38612A Attorney for Applicants

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in the specification section which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Listing of Claims begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.